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Student Life

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the

PHOENIX

The Student Newspaper of Governors State University

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GSUA
620-1

GSU asks you, 'Why Not?'

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Maimon Kicks Off Academic Year With Convocation

By Steve Schering
Editor

Standing at the same podium she did eight months earlier as GSU's first presidential finalist, Dr. Elaine Maimon gave her first Convocation Speech since becoming GSU President.

Her first state of GSU address took place September 11 in the Sherman Recital Hall. After presenting Ron McDavid with the Dr. Gerald C. Baysore Endowed Distinguished Service Award, Maimon took time to reflect on the six-year anniversary of the terrorist attacks of 2001.

"Convocation is traditional to opening up the academic year, but this year we come together on a date that resonates in all our hearts," Maimon said, before leading in a moment of silence. "I was CEO of the west campus at Arizona State University and we decided to stay open and hold classes.

"We intended to provide a safe place for our staff and students. We were on campus engaged in education."

Maimon also cited the recent success of registering students to vote. At the Welcome Days event the school managed to register 77 new voters in a two-day span. The school will continue to register new voters up until election time.

GSU is currently looking for a new provost and a new dean to head the College of Education. Maimon commended the search committees for "getting a jump on the candidate pool." So far over 30 applicants have come forward for the provost job, with "more coming in each day."

She also expressed gratitude to those faculty mem-

bers pulling double-duty, as they sit in the provost and College of Education Dean chairs on an interim basis.

"Wearing two hats seems to be the style at GSU this year," Maimon said.

Enrollment is also up 6.2 percent for the fall 2007 trimester, as compared to the 2006 fall trimester.

"The growth is entirely in graduate programs," Maimon said. "We have work to do in undergraduate enrollment."

Maimon continues to stress the need for the E and F wing science labs to be renovated. Due to inflation the costs to renovate the labs will now be \$21.5 million.

"I am obsessed with this issue," Maimon said. "I hope you all share my obsession. We will do the best we can [to get it done]."

GSU will also be getting some much needed financing for maintenance due to the sale of bonds. The \$22 million maintenance is designed to make sure events



Phoenix Photo by Steve Schering
Interim Provost, Peggy Woodard (right), introducing Dr. Maimon (left).

like last April's water main break don't happen again.

The ceremony concluded with the unveiling of the university's new 'Why Not?' program. GSU is looking for 'constructive suggestions' from alumni, faculty, and current students, anyone with an idea. Those ideas can be sent via a new website at www.govst.edu/whynot.

"You can stand cynically on the side, or you can become constructively engaged and participate in developing strategies for turning big GSU dreams into reality," Maimon concluded.

Spreading the Word on Scholarships

By Cynthia Sims
Contributor

With gas and milk at more than \$3.00 a gallon, wouldn't it be nice if you could get some help with your college tuition?

Because times have changed so drastically, many people are focusing on going back to school. When you walk in many college classrooms, you find a lot of people 30 and over returning to try and make a difference.

Most of the jobs that are available to us require more of an educational edge than we currently possess. Here at GSU there are close to 6,000 students enrolled. Each semester, some 2,750 students apply for some type of financial aid.

According to David Weinberger, assistant director of the Financial Aid Department, there are several avenues of financial assistance available for GSU students.

"There are many scholarships and tuition waivers available. Many of the scholarships for this semester have already been awarded, but now is the time to apply for next semester's," said Sheree Sanderson, a Business/Administrative Associate at GSU.

The Financial Aid office is trying to get the word out about the assistance that is available. Earlier this year a scholarship booklet was mailed to all GSU students, with a complete listing of all scholarships available,

along with their specified deadlines.

As part of the criteria, in many cases, students are asked to submit an essay giving information about their projected career.

That seems to be as easy as it gets. What could be better than telling people what you intend to do for society, with the knowledge you have gained at GSU?

It seems that even with the booklet many students don't have the information they need. We often take it for granted that everyone is aware, but as we can see they're not.

"I never knew scholarships existed here," said Kelly Boike, who is working on her bachelors' degree in business management.

Erin Toomey, a grad student at GSU, said she had no knowledge of the options available for trimming some of the expense off her education.

"I never knew anything existed for grad students," Toomey said.

Each dean, for every major study has the most updated material needed for students to apply.

Information is also available at Financial Aid. Always remember, "Financial Aid is here to help the students," Weinberger said.



the PHOENIX YOUR CAMPUS

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I WANT YOU! TO WRITE FOR THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF COURSE!

If you have an interest in writing, journalism, or design, the *Phoenix* has a place for you!

The *Phoenix* Student Newspaper is looking for student contributors for the fall trimester to help in making the *Phoenix*'s return a success.

If you are interested, please contact the Phoenix office at **708-534-4517** or **phoenix@govst.edu**.

the PHOENIX

The *Phoenix* is Governors State University's student newspaper. It is published twice monthly during the fall and winter, and monthly during the spring/summer.

We welcome articles, suggestions, photos, commentary, cartoons, and letters to the editor on issues that concern you or the greater GSU population.

We reserve the right to edit submissions for clarity, legality, and interest to our GSU readership.

All submissions should be signed, and include the student, faculty, or staff member's ID number, department, and phone number.

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GSU Questions You



By Steve Schering
Editor

No doubt the 'Why Not?' posters and flyers have caught your attention while walking through campus.

If you are asking yourself the question 'Why?' then look no further than GSU's new website at www.govst.edu/whynot.

While Governors State University President Dr. Elaine Maimon was concluding her Convocation Speech on September 11, she revealed what the 'Why Not?' campaign is all about.

"George Bernard Shaw originated the famous quotation adopted by Bobby Kennedy," Maimon said. "Shaw wrote: 'You see things and you say, 'Why?' But I dream of things that never were, and I say, 'Why not?'"

"Some of us remember that Robert Kennedy ended every stump speech with his version of that quotation: 'Some men see things as they are and ask, 'Why?' I dream

of things as they never were and ask, 'Why not?'"

Robert Kennedy died in 1968. Governors State University was founded one year later in 1969, based on this 'Why not?' spirit.

The 'Why Not?' website will allow students, faculty, alumni or anyone else interested to state a problem, issue or concern about GSU that needs improvement. Then you can list your own solution to the problem.

A committee that works on the website will then forward each message to its proper destination for a response.

GSU will be giving out prizes to those who submit a constructive suggestion. No prizes will be given out for complaints without a suggestion, however. There will also be one 'big prize' given away each semester for the best idea.

"This is everyone's chance to participate actively in suggesting ideas to bust bureaucracy, improve all features of what we do, and make GSU a truly student-centered institution" Maimon said."

GSU Library Hosts Art Show and Booksale



Artist Faye Zalecki posing next to one of her works. Zalecki's works will be displayed at the book sale on September 19.

By Steve Schering
Editor

The Friends of the GSU Library is sponsoring an art show and book sale

on September 19, beginning at 4 p.m.

Members of Friends of the Library will get first chance to purchase books from 4-5 p.m. The general public will be able to shop the sale from 5-6 p.m. The donated books will range in price

from 50 cents to \$10.

The art show will feature the work of Country Club Hills resident Faye Zalecki.

Zalecki graduated from The School of the Art Institute of Chicago in 1953 with a BAE degree.

Since then Zalecki has worked in several area art studios, including William Sorenson Studios, Fuller Smith & Ross Agency, the University of Chicago Printing Department and the Portland Cement Association.

After working 40 years in the advertising industry Zalecki retired. After her husband's death in 1996, she began to design new artwork using a variety of computer software, archive quality papers and permanent ink.

Her work has been showcased at Tall Grass Arts Association in Park Forest, White Street Gallery in Frankfort and The Art House in Palos Heights.

College Grads Have Social Advantages

By Megan Kaldis
Daily Texan

(U-Wire) A college degree has more benefits than just a higher wage for graduates; it also provides a host of societal benefits and according to a report released Thursday.

The "Education Pays Report" was written by Sandy Baum and Jennifer Ma for the College Board, a non-profit organization with the mission "to connect students to college success and opportunity," according to its Web site. The report uses data from the U.S. Department of Education, the U.S. Census Bureau and surveys by other higher education groups.

The report lists a variety of societal benefits for higher education including increased tax revenue, more volunteerism and healthier lifestyles. Noting these advantages, the report encourages closing the gaps preventing higher education from reaching more people.

"College exposes you to many kinds of people and ideas in and out of the classroom, which dispels your fears about other's ideas and makes you more sure about your own ideas," said Suzanne Morse, president of Pew Partnership for Civic Change.

Morse also said she believes those with a college degree volunteer more because they have jobs that allow them the time, and they usually know more people in the community to call to get involved.

"People without a degree have to work more jobs to just make ends meet," Morse said.

The report showed that 43 percent of bachelor's degree recipients said they volunteered in 2006. Fewer than 20 percent of high school graduates report volunteering and do so for a median of 52 hours.

Those with a college education are less likely to smoke than those without the degree.

According to the report, 10 percent of those over age 25 with at least a bachelor's degree smoke, compared to 25 percent of those whose educations ended in high

school.

Those who have a degree know the health risks or are influenced by parents and peers who do not smoke, Morse said.

The report also acknowledged that differences in family background and other factors have an effect on educational attainment.

Getting a college education is an outcome of the way people were raised, said Robert Crosnoe, a UT sociology associate professor.

A person's background and socio-economic status cannot be excluded as factors in the benefits he or she receives from a college degree, he said.

"People with a college degree come from a better background, are efficacious and usually have higher IQs," Crosnoe said.

Male, low-income, black, Hispanic and rural students are all less likely to attend college. Investments into increasing education levels for these groups deliver "a high rate of return for society," the report said.

Lenders Take Their Lumps From Student-Aid Legislation

By Albert Sun
Daily Pennsylvanian

(U-Wire) Thanks to Congress' recent student-aid legislation, the gravy train may be coming to an end for student-loan providers.

Last week, both houses of Congress passed a comprehensive student-aid bill that considerably raises the maximum Pell grant and halves the interest rate students pay on federal loans.

But to pay for the cuts, there has been one loser in the aid legislation - student-loan companies.

As part of the bill, loan providers will lose an estimated \$20 billion worth of subsidies, a move from Congress partly in response to what critics have called a greedy student loan industry.

The pressure on student lenders began in April when New York Attorney General Andrew Cuomo announced an investigation into improper relationships between lenders and universities, including kickbacks and free

trips for financial-aid officers who recommended the right provider.

Penn was implicated in the investigation along with partner CitiBank for a deal in which Penn did not disclose that it received a two percent kickback on any loan in CitiBank's loan program.

And while Cuomo's investigation was not directly aimed at the excess profits being made, it did bring tremendous attention down on the industry's practices, including the exorbitant profits companies were making through federally subsidized loans.

The new bill cuts the subsidy lenders had previously received by 0.55 percentage points.

Cuomo's investigation "helped further expose the problems within the industry and the excess subsidies they received," said U.S. Public Interest Research Groups higher-education specialist Luke Swarthout.

"That climate contributed to greater bipartisan support for cutting these subsidies," he added.

The federal subsidy system - which guarantees a

minimum rate of return and repays the lender in case of student defaults - was originally designed to encourage companies to provide loans to students with no credit history.

Swarthout argued, however, that it was ultimately used by lending companies to make far more profit than was intended.

"This is an industry that has a hard time distinguishing between taxpayer dollars and their own profits," he said.

Business and Public Policy professor Betsey Stevenson said that, with this bill, Congress is doing away with a government regulation that creates waste.

"If it was a competitive industry, what they would do is lower their prices," Stevenson said, "but it's a government-regulated one."

See 'Lenders'
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THE CENTERPOINT FOR ENTREPRENEURS

2007 Fall Class Schedule

| <u>DATE:</u> | <u>COURSE:</u> | <u>COST:</u> | <u>LOCATION:</u> |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|------------------|
| Wednesday, Sept. 12 (10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.) | The Unconventional Entrepreneur: MULTI-LEVEL MARKETING | \$25.00 | GSU - C3300 |
| Friday, Sept. 14 (9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.) | Applying For A Small Business Loan | \$40.00 | GSU - C3300 |
| Friday, Sept. 21 (10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.) | The Power of Fearless Prospecting | \$75.00 | GSU - C3300 |
| Saturday, Sept. 22 (9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.) | Starting A Business: Q&A | \$10.00 | GSU - C3300 |
| Wednesday, Sept. 26 (6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.) Thursday, Sept. 27 (6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.) Wednesday, Oct. 3 (6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.) | Writing A Business Plan & Getting A Loan (3 Session Course)(Tuition Reimb May Be Available) | \$50.00 | GSU - C3300 |
| Thursday, Oct. 4 (6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.) | Franchising Basics | FREE | GSU - C3300 |
| Wednesday, Oct. 24 (6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.) | What You Should Know Before Incorporating | \$40.00 | GSU - C3300 |
| Thursday, Nov. 8 (6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.) | Understanding Your Financial Statements | \$40.00 | GSU - C3300 |

(Note: Course information and pricing is subject to change. Courses are presented based on pre-registration enrollment numbers and are subject to cancellation.)

NO SHOWS WILL NOT BE REFUNDED

For more information, or to register for a workshop call 708.534.4929.

Full class descriptions and registration is also available at www.centerpointgsu.com

Art Ark

To have your photo, painting, cartoon, drawing, poem, song, or short story featured in the *Art Ark*, please submit your work with caption to the *Phoenix* by stopping by the office in E1500 or email your submissions to phoenix@govst.edu



Gilsland Farm, End of Summer

pastel on sanded pastel paper
by **Gratia J. Banta**

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the PHOENIX THIS IS NEWS

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Syracuse & Universal Partner for Movie Screenings

By Naresh Rammohan

Daily Orange (Syracuse)

(U-WIRE) SYRACUSE, N.Y. — Syracuse University students will get the chance to live like Hollywood celebrities and movie critics this year. Thanks to a new, innovative program called Campus U, they will have the chance to see movie premiers before the rest of the nation.

Starting this month, Universal Pictures will begin screening some of its films in the Syracuse area weeks before they hit theaters.

"Universal is the first company running such a program," said junior advertising major Caitlyn Jones, who is interning with the studio and is in charge of planning and advertising the program at SU. "Campus U is expanding because Universal caters to students' needs to be entertained, and SU needs more entertainment. Universal films appeal to students."

The program is part of Universal's strategy to promote its upcoming films through peer-to-peer marketing. Campus U began in 2006 in 20 universities, and this year, Universal added 20 more schools. School size, spirit, academics and reputation serve as the basis for selection.

The intent at Syracuse calls for a screening of a yet-to-be released film every month at Palace Theater, 2384 James St. Admission will be free and open to SU students only.

The DVD release of summer hit "Knocked Up" on Sept. 25 will also banner for National "Knocked Up" Day. Jones will help celebrate this auspicious day by giving away DVDs and other promotional items at a yet-to-be announced local bar, which will also carry drink specials throughout the night.

Jones said "Knocked Up" is a perfect example of what Universal is trying to accomplish.

"It was a low-budget film with very little initial hype," Jones said. "But because Universal showed students the film ahead of time through Campus U, and because students liked it so much and promoted it well, the film ended up being one of the huge successes of the summer."

On Sept. 26, the Palace Theater will show the critically acclaimed "The Kingdom," starring Jamie Foxx and Jennifer Garner, days before its opening release. Other flicks slated for this semester include "Elizabeth: The Golden Age," George Clooney's sports comedy "Leatherheads" and Ridley Scott's "American Gangster," starring Denzel Washington and Russell Crowe.

Television, radio and film majors are particularly

excited at the prospective plan. Many said they believe the viewings will help them with their critical skills in their particular areas of interest.

"Watching movies earlier than their release date allows us as students to think for ourselves and not be influenced by what someone like Roger Ebert has to say," said freshman TRF major Michael Morse.

"It certainly allows us to examine a piece independently and then see later how we measure up to the more experienced reviewers," Morse said.

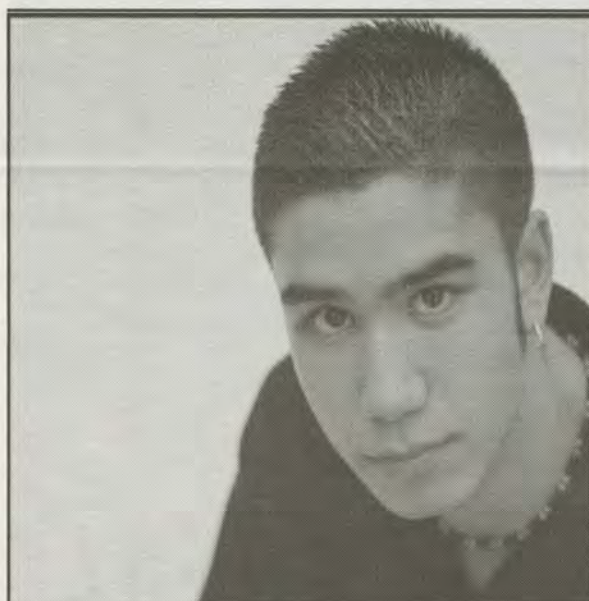
Robert Thompson, director of the Bleier Center for Television and Popular Culture at SU, said he believes movie companies and their marketing and advertising divisions see college students as promotions outlets.

"With the idea of advanced screenings — students are insiders," he said.

"If you show a sneak preview to a bunch of 65 year olds, they might like it, and they might tell some of their friends in the pinocle club," Thompson said.

"However, students will be talking about it on Facebook, MySpace, etc. Today, the average college student has become a major communication device."

For the latest information on show times and screenings of Universal films throughout the school year, students can join the "Universal Pictures at SU" Facebook group.



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'Lenders' Con't from page 3

While lending companies have argued that the legislation will reduce the number of options available for students, experts say it will instead simply eliminate those companies that were making

profits by taking advantage of students.

"The reality is that most of the legitimate student loan companies are going to stay in the business, continue to make money, and continue to make loans," said Bill Andresen, director of Penn's Federal Affairs Office in Washington.

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Across the Universe: An Audio/Visual Triumph



By John Conrad
Associate Editor

"Is there anybody going to listen to my story, all about a girl who came to stay?"

This line, from the song *Girl*, marks the beginning of *Across the Universe*, a musical adventure into the fantastic.

Across the Universe is a story of love, war, peace, friendship, although set in the 60's, is still relevant in society today.

The story involves a dockworker from Liverpool named Jude traveling to America to meet his estranged father. After arriving stateside, Jude befriends Max, a college drop out, and the two become fast friends. Soon after this Jude is introduced to Max's sister Lucy, and they fall in love.

They all share an apartment in Greenwich Village

with their musician friends Sadie and Jo-Jo (strikingly reminiscent of Jimi Hendrix). Then Max gets drafted to serve in Vietnam, Jude and Lucy join the peace movement, and their lives are turned around as the bonds that held them together get torn apart.

This movie is a musical, set to many of the songs in the extensive Beatles library. The actors (not the Beatles) sing these songs, and the tone and pace of some of the songs are changed to reflect the character's feelings. Some of the songs covered are, *Helter Skelter*, *All My Loving*, *I Want to Hold Your Hand*, *Hey Jude*, and *Dear Prudence*.

There is also a highly visual and psychedelic rendering of *The Benefit of Mr. Kite* performed by Eddie Izzard, and *I Am the Walrus* performed by Bono. These two songs and a new take on *I Want You* stood out as my favorite pieces, both audibly and visually.

The co-writer of the story and director, Julie Taymor, is the award winning director/choreographer from

Broadway's production of *The Lion King*. And it shows. The dancing and singing are captivating and moving, while the visual effects are vivid and stunning.

There is also a scene where Jude and Lucy are singing as the embrace each other in an underwater dance. I am still befuddled as to how they pulled this scene off. It looked so real, as if they were underwater, yet they were singing, dancing, and breathing. This was undoubtedly some form of Hollywood magic (that's why those guys make the big bucks).

The story contains little exposition and is told mostly through song, and elaborate dance numbers. But it works and is easy to follow.

I only had one problem with the film. At 131 minutes, it seemed to run a little long. Perhaps some scenes could have been shortened a little more in the editing room to make the film flow more fluidly. But now I'm just nitpicking and trying to find something wrong with an otherwise beautiful movie.

I highly recommend this movie to anyone who is a Beatles fan, and if you aren't this movie may just change your mind I give this film 3 1/2 stars out of 4.

Student Senate Corner: A Message From Student Senate President, Rosa Moran

Good afternoon everyone. This is a great time to speak in convocation. Especially since GSU is on the brink of rebirth, a second chance to realize university goals. Change is inevitable, and it carries the winds of ideas. Ideas can turn to dust or magic. I have a hunch we will see a lot of magic around this university. I think the banners are the introduction to the magic. Every banner exclaims who we are and what we can do with a new sense of purpose. Change comes bearing gifts. In

that case I am expecting a field of flowers, and there is every indication that GSU will blossom.

Let me ask the GSU community to grow with the change and witness the new life at GSU so that all of us can imagine the limitless possibilities of those who care about the university they serve. As the senate President and representative of the students at GSU, I would like to extend a warm welcome to our new President and Vice President and let them know that we have high hopes.

The student senate will put on a production in Engbertson Hall on the Friday afternoon [November 2] of the installation. The presentation will include exemplary performance of various students from all colleges in the universality. This production will be hosted by the student senate, specifically Karen Mayo, the Chair of the student senate programming committee. This will be a class act and should not be missed by any student at GSU. Come see what your friends are doing in school.

Solutions for Crossword & Sodoku found on page 8.

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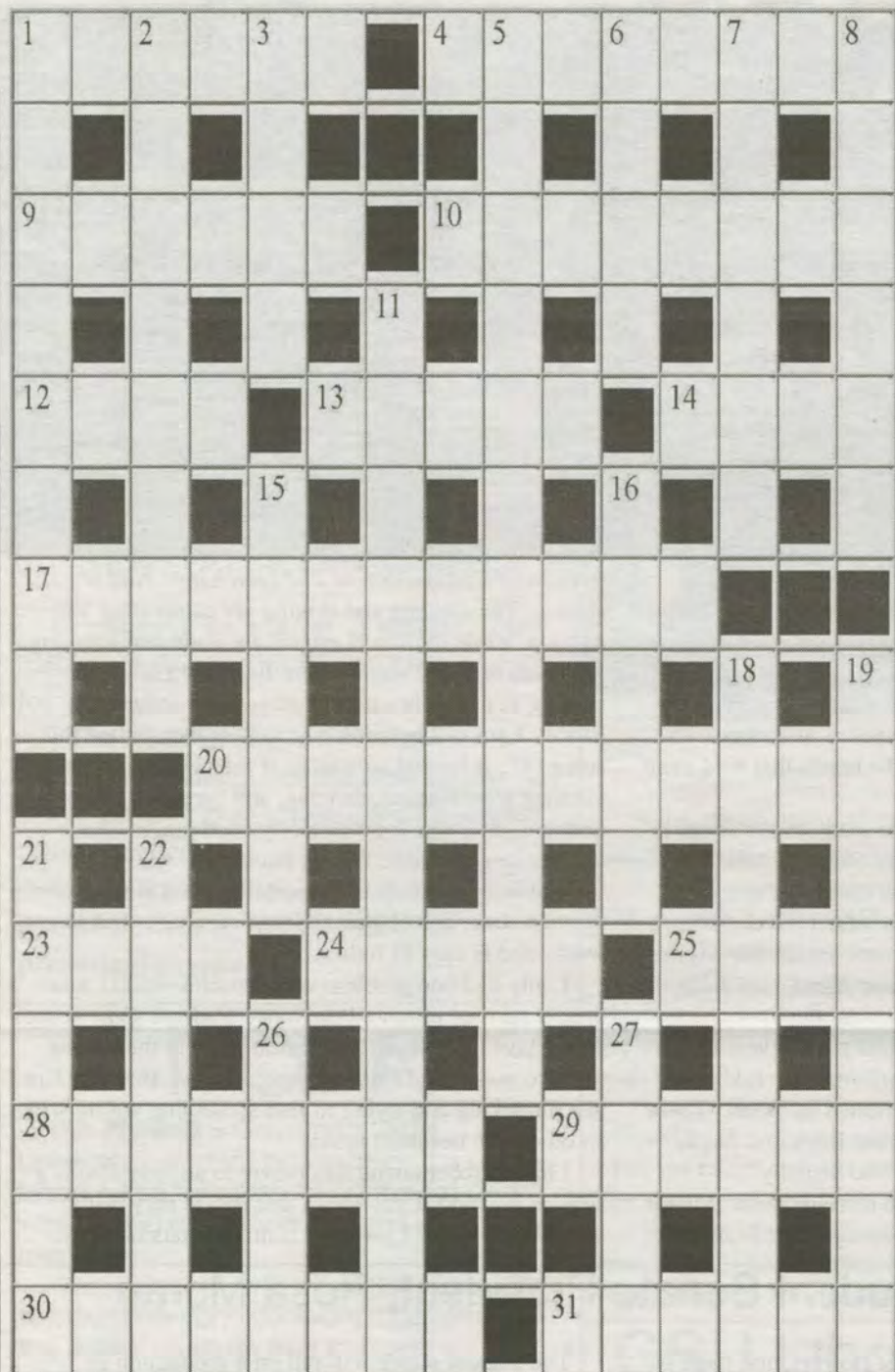
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What's Up

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Crossword & Sudoku: solutions on page 7

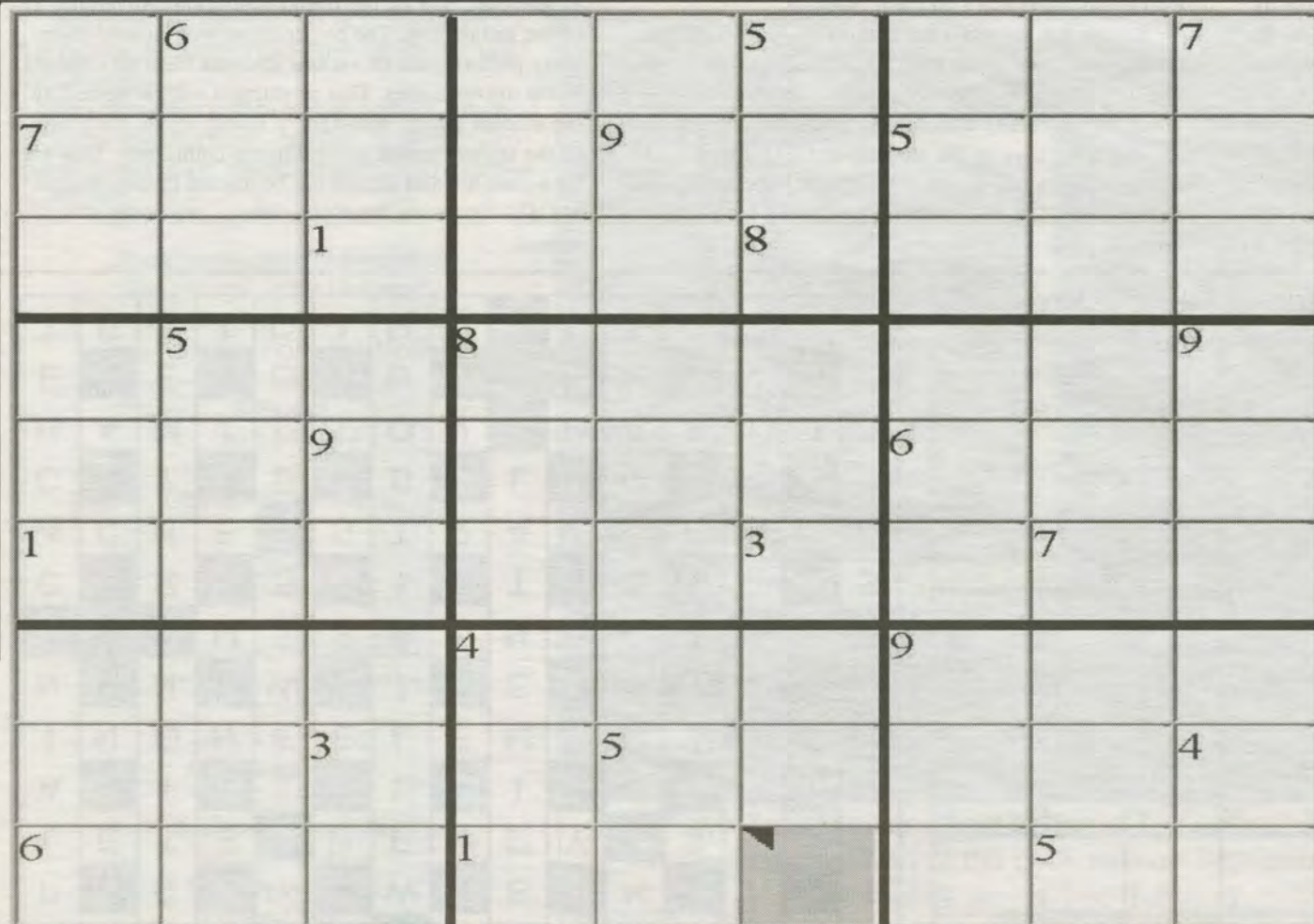


Across

1. Get Michael Caine? (6)
4. Convinced normal leather? (8)
9. Burglars are wary of these (6)
10. The Really Good Ska Group (8)
12. Allows (4)
13. One of the Fat Contollers charges (5)
14. Slimy creature (4)
17. Enter a single simple substance? (12)
20. Lost holiday luggage. (12)
23. Pain (4)
24. The last one (5)
25. Arthurs' hot 1968 hit (4)
28. see 15 down (8)
29. Lots of fast water here (6)
30. Carol Hersee playing tick tack toe (8)
31. Ruth, Alan's nocturnal friend? (6)

Down

1. Does he look after your religious need? (8)
2. Feeling a direct result of something? (8)
3. Yank the TV Award? (4)
5. It is still being tested (12)
6. Be bad to a lolly? (4)
7. Uses an advantage for profit? (6)
8. Red flag? (6)
11. Exclaims and asks it's taste? (4,2,2,4)
15. (and 28 across) Fastest British hope? (5)
16. Atop the frozen water? (5)
18. Trying to be succesful (8)
19. One who judges (8)
21. Mark of quality (6)
22. Their ends sound the same (6)
26. This group has similar political interests (4)
27. Celebration of sports event (4)



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SIDL Bi-Weekly Information Sessions

The School of Interdisciplinary Learning offers bi-weekly information sessions that will answer your questions about the program and give you a tour of the campus.

To find out more about the SIDL, please contact us at 708.534.4092 or e-mail sidl@govst.edu.

Constitution Day Observance

The Political and Justice Studies program has brought together a powerful panel to present a Community Forum on The Constitution, Citizenship and Voting Rights on Monday September 17, 2007 at 3:00-4:30 p.m. in Sherman Recital Hall. There will also be a voter registrar available to register individuals to vote. The event is free and open to the public.

Presidential Installation: November 3

All community members, faculty and staff, and students are invited to attend a ceremony and celebration in recognition of the installation of Dr. Elaine P. Maimon as the university's fifth president. Additional event details will be available soon.

Library hours at GSU

Monday - Thursday:
8:30 a.m. - 10:30 p.m.
Friday - Saturday:
8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sunday:
1 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Recreation / Fitness Center hours

Monday - Friday: 6 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Saturday: 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Sunday: Noon - 4 p.m.

Closed Sundays during the Spring/Summer trimester.